

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 18392 120904Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 OES-07 HEW-06 CEQ-01
EPA-04 CTME-00 /071 W
-----030429 120913Z /20/11

P R 091231Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2934
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 18392

USEEC

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT ADD LINE 2 PARA 2

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, ETRD, FR
SUBJECT: REPORTED FRENCH BAN ON IMPORTS OF FLAME-
RESISTANT CHILDREN'S SLEEPWEAR

REF: STATE 140849

1. EMBASSY QUERIED GOF REGARDING THE SUBJECT REPORT
AND OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS
POSED IN PARA 3 OF REFTEL:

-- A DECREE DATED JUNE 1 (PUBLISHED IN THE
"JOURNAL OFFICIEL" OF JUNE 2) AND SIGNED
BY THE MINISTERS OF HEALTH AND FAMILY,
INDUSTRY, BUDGET, ECONOMY, AND AGRICULTURE
PROVIDES THAT: "THE PRODUCTION, IMPORTATION
AND SALE OF ALL CLOTHING AND TEXTILES
TREATED WITH THE RETARDANT RIS ARE
PROHIBITED FOR ONE YEAR BEGINNING JUNE 2.

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THESE PRODUCTS MUST BE WITHDRAWN FROM ALL
POINTS OF SALE. THIS DECREE IS BASED ON
ARTICLE 2 OF LAW NO. 78-23 OF JANUARY 10,
1978 RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION AND
INFORMATION OF CONSUMERS.

-- THE PUBLICATION OF THE DECREE SERVES AS

NOTICE TO CUSTOMS OFFICIALS TO BAN IMPORTS
OF THESE ARTICLES. A NOTICE TO IMPORTERS
WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY INDICATING WHICH
BTN NUMBERS ARE AFFECTED.

-- AS INDICATED IN THE DECREE, THE DOMESTIC
SALE AND PRODUCTION IS ALSO PROHIBITED.
NO MECHANISM HAS AS YET BEEN ESTABLISHED
TO ALLOCATE THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF THE
NOW UNSALEABLE INVENTORY.

-- THE DECISION TO BAN TEMPORARILY THE
TRIS-TREATED ARTICLES WAS BASED ON THE
INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE USG TO THE
OECD AT END-1977.

-- AS INDICATED IMMEDIATELY ABOVE, THE GOF
DID RECEIVE OFFICIAL USG NOTIFICATION
OF THE U.S. REGULATORY ACTION VIA THE
NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED
WITHIN THE OECD CONTEXT. THE
TEMPORARY BAN MAY OR MAY NOT BECOME FINAL
PENDING THE RESULTS OF TESTS WHICH THE
GOF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION WILL CONDUCT.

2. COMMENT. AT FIRST BLUSH IT WOULD APPEAR THAT
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THE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE FUNCTIONED SMOOTHLY
ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT TARDILY. HOWEVER, OUR GOF SOURCE
INDICATED THAT ACTION WAS TAKEN ONLY AFTER CONSUMER
GROUPS HAD INFORMED THE DIRECTION DE LA SECURITE
CIVILE" OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR THAT SALES
OF FLAME-RESISTANT CHILDREN'S PAJAMAS WERE CONTINUING
IN FRANCE SEVERAL MONTHS AFTER THE USG NOTIFICATION
TO THE OECD OF THE US REGULATORY ACTION.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, CHILDREN, CLOTHING, LAW, STANDARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS18392
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780247-0093
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780676/aaaacnlb.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 10d4428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 140849
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2415873
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED FRENCH BAN ON IMPORTS OF FLAME- RESISTANT CHILDREN'S SLEEPWEAR
TAGS: SENV, ETRD, FR
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/10d4428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014